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# SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MANAGERS

OF THE

# PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTION

FOR THE

## INSTRUCTION OF THE BLIND.

Presented to the Corporators

At their Annual Meeting, March 5, 1849.



PHILADELPHIA:

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1849.

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# PROCEEDINGS OF THE CORPORATORS,

AT THEIR

ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 5, 1849.

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The Sixteenth Annual Meeting of the Corporators of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind, was held at the Institution on Monday afternoon, March 5, 1849, at 4 o'clock.

Twenty-five members of the Corporation being present, the President being absent, the senior Vice President, Dr. R. M. Patterson, took the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read.

The Annual Report of the Board of Managers, with its accompanying documents, was then presented and read, and on motion of Mr. Lewis, the same was accepted and referred to the next Board of Managers, to be printed with such amendments as may be deemed proper.

Robert M. Lewis, Esq., offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this meeting be tendered to the Managers and Officers of the Institution, for the able and efficient manner in which they have conducted its affairs.

The Hon. John K. Kane offered the following resolution, which was adopted:—

*Resolved*, That the third article of the Constitution be amended by inserting after the word “who,” in the first line, the words following, so that the whole article shall read as follows: Any person may become a member who, having been admitted at a stated meeting of the corporators, by a majority of the voters thereat, or having been nominated as such at a stated meeting of the Board of Managers, and approved by a majority of votes at the next stated meeting of the same, shall pay in advance a sum not less than three dollars per annum; or in lieu thereof, a sum not less than thirty dollars, which shall constitute him a member for life.

The meeting then proceeded to the annual election of Officers and Managers. Mr. Jacob G. Morris and Mr. Franklin Peale, acting as tellers.

The tellers made report, and the following gentlemen were thereupon declared duly elected Officers and Managers for the ensuing year:—

*President.*

BENJAMIN W. RICHARDS.

*Vice-Presidents.*

R. M. PATTERSON, M.D.	SAMUEL BRECK,
JOHN K. KANE,	ALBERT G. WATERMAN.

*Corresponding Secretary.*

J. FRANCIS FISHER.

*Recording Secretary.*

THEODORE CUYLER.

*Treasurer.*

GEORGE W. EDELMAN.

*Consulting Physician.*

CHARLES D. MEIGS, M.D.

*Managers.*

FRANKLIN PEALE,	ALFRED L. ELWYN, M.D.
EDWARD KING,	CASPAR MORRIS, M.D.
THOMAS S. KIRKBRIDE, M.D.	A. V. PARSONS,
JACOB G. MORRIS,	EVANS ROGERS,
JOHN C. CRESSON,	JOHN. A. BROWN,
ROBLEY DUNGLISON, M.D.	MAY HUMPHREYS,
WM. H. DILLINGHAM,	W. R. LEJEE.

On motion, adjourned.

B. W. RICHARDS, *Chairman.*

Attest,

THEODORE CUYLER, *Secretary.*

## COMMITTEES FOR THE YEAR,

*Appointed by the Board of Managers.*

### FINANCE.

Samuel Breck, John K. Kane,  
W. R. Lejee.

### ADMISSION AND DISCHARGE.

Franklin Peale, J. A. Brown.  
A. V. Parsons,

### INSTRUCTION.

Robert M. Patterson, Robley Dunglison,  
J. Francis Fisher, John C. Cresson,  
Alfred L. Elwyn.

### HOUSEHOLD.

Albert G. Waterman, Jacob G. Morris,  
Thomas S. Kirkbride, May Humphreys,  
Dr. Caspar Morris.

### FEMALE VISITERS.

Mrs. B. W. Richards, Mrs. J. K. Kane,  
Mrs. C. D. Meigs, Mrs. A. G. Waterman,  
Mrs. R. M. Patterson, Mrs. S. Breck.

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## OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

### *Principal.*

JOSEPH R. FRY.

### *Teachers.*

THOMAS S. MARTIN, MISS ELIZABETH A. NOYES.

### *Assistant Teachers.*

HANNAH GILLEM (Blind), MATILDA HANKINS (Blind).

### *Teacher of Music.*

FREDERICK RASCHE.

*Assistant Teacher.*

SARAH ANN DANDY (Blind).

*Master of Handicraft.*

C. H. MEYER.

*Mistress of Handicraft.*

MRS. LEAH ANN SHARPLESS.

*Assistant Teacher.*

RACHEL LEARD (Blind).

*Matron.*

MRS. ELIZA WHITE.

*Assistant Matron.*

MISS REBECCA COLLINS.

*Printer and Storekeeper.*

MICHAEL SNIDER.

*Visiting Physicians.*

A. G. STOCKER,

WM. B. PAGE.

# SIXTEENTH

## ANNUAL REPORT.

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Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind,  
*Philadelphia, February, 1849.*

THE Managers of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind, beg leave to present the Annual Report required by the Charter, in the words of a communication made to them by the Principal, Mr. J. R. Fry, on the progress and condition of the Institution, during the past year, which with the Annual Account of the Receipts and Disbursements by the Treasurer, a Statement of the Property, Assets and Income of the Institution, and a distinct Account of the Birch Legacy, will embrace every topic interesting to the contributors.

The enlargement of our accommodations, both for musical and other instruction, and for lodgings, has been repeatedly considered by the Board, who have been deterred from any extensive building by the expense, and from a partial undertaking by the fear of future inadequateness. The expedient of hiring several houses in our immediate neighbourhood, is for the present found sufficient; but the plan of erecting on our own grounds an unexpensive edifice, which will give us an Infirmary, several practising rooms, and additional dormitories, is still entertained.

The Board are most happy to unite with Mr. Fry in his commendation of the instructors and other officers of the Institution under him. At no time, have all the departments been filled more to the satisfaction of the managers; and the good order and harmony which prevail are creditable to all parties.

At the same time, they cannot omit a just tribute to the zeal, activity, and talents of the Principal; of the gratifying results of which, the recent public Examination attended by the Board, and every opportunity of private inspection, have given the most satisfactory evidence.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Managers,

B. W. RICHARDS, *President.*





Do. received from parents or friends of eight pupils, for their board and tuition, -  
 Do. received for ground rent extinguished,

830 52
1,875 00
<hr/> \$28,918 18

*Note.*—Of this balance, \$3,233.29 belong to the General Income Fund, and \$906.77 belong to the Birch Legacy.

<hr/> \$28,918 18
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E. E.

Treasurer's Office, January 1st, 1849.

GEO. W. EDELMAN, *Treasurer.*

The Committee of Finance have examined the foregoing account, and compared the same with the vouchers produced in support thereof, and find the same correct: balance in the Bank of North America, four thousand one hundred and forty dollars and six cents, \$4140.06, January 1st, 1849.

SAMUEL BRECK, } *Committee of Finance.*  
 F. FRALEY, }

Examined and found correct,

FRANKLIN PEALE,  
 B. W. RICHARDS,  
 CASPAR MORRIS,

} *Committee of Audit and Inspection.*

## INCOME FROM THE BIRCH LEGACY,

*For the Year 1848.*

Twelve months' dividend on American Fire Insurance Company's stock,	-	-	-	-	\$1,386 00
Twelve months' interest on Union Mutual Insurance Company's stock and scrip,	-	-	-	-	43 20
Reserved profits from the Union Insurance Company,	-	-	-	-	33 06
Twelve months' interest on Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company's Mortgage Loan,	-	-	-	-	204 08
On account of arrears of interest on Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company's Common Loan, in coal scrip, \$980, sold for cash,	-	-	-	-	799 03
Twelve months' interest on Franklin Institute Loan,	-	-	-	-	25 00
Nine months' ground rent,	-	-	-	-	84 37
Twelve months' dividend on the following Companies' stock:—					
Germantown and Perkiomen Turnpike,	\$	8	50		
Cheltenham and Willow Grove Turnpike,		128	00		
Chesnut Hill and Spring House Turnpike,		136	50		
Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike,		175	50		
					<hr/> 448 50
Twelve months' interest on sundry bonds and mortgages, at six per cent.,	-	-	-	-	2,787 54
					<hr/> \$5,810 78

*Philadelphia, January 1st, 1849.*

GEO. W. EDELMAN,  
*Treasurer.*

## THE COMMITTEE OF AUDIT AND INSPECTION

Respectfully report, that they have examined the evidences of property belonging to the "Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind," now in the custody of the Committee on Finance, and they find the same to be as follows, to wit:—

*Deeds and Muniments of Title to the Real Estate occupied by the Institution.*

## A.

1. Deed Poll. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to Joseph Dean.
2. Deed Poll. John Smith, Marshal, to John Hallowell.
3. Deed Poll. John Connelly and others to do.
4. Deed. John Hallowell and wife to Abraham Kunzi.
5. John Hallowell and wife to Knowles Taylor.
6. Abraham Kunzi to Knowles Taylor.
7. 4 Deeds, Nos. 129 to 132, inclusive. Knowles Taylor and wife to Isaac S. Lloyd.
8. Knowles Taylor and wife to the Institution, with papers accompanying the same, six in number.
9. Isaac S. Lloyd and wife to the Institution, and a certified copy of the same.

*Policies of Insurance on the above.*

1. On the main building, \$12,000.
2. On the workshop, \$1000.
3. On furniture and moveable property, \$9000.

## B.

1. Charles Harlan to John School and Charles Faurest.
2. Charles Harlan to John School and Charles Faurest.
3. Deed Poll. Morton M'Michael, Sheriff, to Charles Harlan.
4. Deed. John School and wife, and Charles Faurest, to the Institution, with papers relating to the same, six in number.
5. Deed Poll. Morton M'Michael, Esquire, to the Institution.
1. Policy of Insurance on houses on Third street for \$2400.

## C.

1. Deed. Philip Physick, Esquire, and wife, to Mathew Walker.
2. Deed Poll. Wm. A. Porter, Esquire, High Sheriff, to Alexander J. Reid.

3. Deed Poll. Morton M<sup>c</sup>Michael, Esquire, Sheriff, to Alexander J. Reid.

4. Deed. Anna Maria Shields to John Bosler. Deed endorsed John Bosler and wife to Benjamin Davis.

5. Benjamin Davis and wife to Frederick Fraley and others.

6. Alexander J. Reid to Frederick Fraley and others.

7. Frederick Fraley and wife, and others, to the Institution, with papers relating to the same, six in number.

### D.

1. Deed. Wm. Y. Birch, Trustee, &c., to Hugh Buck. Ground rent, \$36, and four papers relative to the same.

1. Policy of Insurance for \$1000.

### BONDS.

1. Bond for \$1500, secured by mortgage, and Policy of Insurance for \$800.

2. Bond for \$2500, secured by mortgage, and Policy of Insurance for \$1500.

3. Bond for \$750, secured by mortgage, and Policy of Insurance for \$800.

4. Bond for \$1500, secured by mortgage, and Policy of Insurance for \$500.

5. Bond for \$4000, secured by mortgage, and Policy of Insurance for \$4000.

6. Bond for \$10,000, secured by mortgage, and Policy of Insurance for \$4000.

7. Bond for \$11,809.46, secured by mortgages, and by Policy of Insurance for \$5000.

8. Bond for \$2400, secured by mortgage, and Policy of Insurance for \$1000.

9. Bond for \$5500, secured by mortgage, and Policy of Insurance for \$4000.

10. Bond for \$4500, secured by mortgage, and Policy of Insurance for \$2000.

### STOCKS.

1. Certificate No. 631, for 19 shares Union Mutual Insurance Company.

2. Certificate No. 16, for 231 shares American Fire Insurance Company.
3. Certificate No. 214, for 21 shares Chesnut Hill and Spring House Turnpike Road Company.
4. Certificate for 16 shares Cheltenham and Willow Grove Turnpike Company.
5. Certificate No. 609, for 2 shares Germantown and Perkiomen Turnpike Company.
6. Certificate No. 1494, for 5 shares Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company.
7. Certificate No. 388, for 896 shares (\$50 each) Union Canal Company, and fractional Certificate No. 126, for \$32.10.
8. Certificate No. 222, for 2 shares Centre Turnpike Company.
9. Certificates (54 in number) for 54 shares Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike Company.
10. Certificate No. 47, for \$100 St. Paul's Church Stock.
11. Sundry Certificates of Stock in bankrupt Insurance Companies and obsolete Associations, which the Committee judge to be worthless.

#### LOANS.

1. Two late pupils of the Institution, for \$150.
2. Ten Certificates of \$50 each, for 5 per cent. Loan of the Franklin Institute of the State of Pennsylvania.
3. Certificate No. 438, for \$3401.11, 6 per cent. Lehigh Mortgage Loan.
4. Certificate No. 8710, for \$24,031.69, 6 per cent. Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company's Loan.

#### SCRIP.

1. Certificate No. 89, for \$50, Mutual Insurance Company.
2. Do. 89, \$60, do. do.
3. Do. 81, \$40, do. do.
4. Do. 88, \$140, do. do.
5. Do. 77, \$50, do. do.

In addition to the foregoing deeds and evidences of property, there are in the *Case*, labelled "Papers of the Birch Legacy, the property of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind," (and

now lodged in the Mint of the United States for safe keeping) the following papers, to wit:—

**E.**

- 1, 2, and 3. Deeds for town lots in Beulah.
4. Real Estate Lottery Policy.

*Miscellaneous Papers, to wit:—*

**F.**

1. Will of William Y. Birch.
2. Legacy of rest and residue, &c., to the Institution.

**G.**

1. Cancelled Bond, Institution to John Bohlen.
2. Cancelled Mortgage, do. do.
3. Bonds of Dr. Vaughan and J. R. Fry to the Institution.
4. Bond of the Treasurer, G. W. Edelman, to the Institution.
5. Obsolete Policy of Insurance.
6. Sundry letters and papers, seven in number, relative to Thomas Hughes' mortgage.
7. Papers and Letters relative to the Birch Legacy, twenty in number.
8. Release of Isaac Edelman.
9. Act of Incorporation.

The Committee also report, that they have carefully examined the Treasurer's accounts for the year ending January 1st, 1849, and have compared the same with the vouchers, and they find the same to be correct, both in the charge and the discharge thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANKLIN PEALE,  
B. W. RICHARDS,  
CASPAR MORRIS,

Committee of Audit and Inspection.

*Assets of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind, and an Estimate of the Value thereof, Feb. 1, 1849.*

*Bonds and Mortgages.*

Various bonds and mortgages, amounting to - - \$44,459 46

*Stocks and Loans.*

Philadelphia and Lancaster Turnpike Company, 54 shares at \$20,	-	-	\$1,080 00
Chestnut Hill and Spring House Turnpike Company, 21 shares at \$80,	-	-	1,680 00
Cheltenham and Willow Grove Turnpike Company, 16 shares at \$75,	-	-	1,200 00
Germantown and Perkiomen Turnpike Company, 2 shares at \$50,	-	-	100 00
American Fire Insurance Company, 231 shares at \$70,	-	-	16,170 00
Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company, 5 shares at \$75,	-	-	375 00
Union Mutual Insurance Company, 19 shares at \$30,	-	-	570 00
Scrip of Union Mutual Insurance Company, at \$290, at 50 cents,	-	-	145 00
Franklin Institute Loan,	-	-	500 00
Lehigh Mortgage Loan, \$3,401.11 at 88½ cts.			3,010 00
Lehigh Common Loan, \$24,031.69 at 62 cts.			14,900 00
Arrears of interest on said loan to 1st January, 1849, \$2,945.74 at 62 cts.	-	-	1,826 00
St. Paul Church 5½ per cent Stock, \$100,	-	-	100 00
Union Canal Company's Stock, 896 shares and a fraction of \$32.10, at \$10¾	-	-	9,639 00
			<hr/> 51,295 00

*Real Estate.*

Buildings and lots occupied by the Institution, and two dwellings on the lots of ground on Sassafras Street, Schuylkill Third Street, Summer Street, and Schuylkill Second Street.	-	-	-	-	76,000 00
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<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	76,000 00	95,754 46
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<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	76,000 00	95,754 46
Household Furniture, Stock of Goods, and		
Materials in house and workshop,	10,000 00	
Amount paid Miss Jane Dumoutet's		
Trustee, - - -	\$2,980 51	
Amount paid on settlement with the		
Executors of Henry Pratt, de-		
ceased, - - -	1,617 37	
	<hr/>	
For which the Institution receive property va-		
lued at - - - -	2,500 00	
	<hr/>	88,500 00
Cash in Bank, February 1st, 1849, - - -	- - -	4,073 24
		<hr/>
		\$188,327 70
		<hr/>

General Fund,	\$83,367 16
Birch Estate,	104,960 54
	<hr/>
	\$188,327 70
	<hr/>

SAML. BRECK,  
F. FRALEY,  
*Committee of Finance.*



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRINCIPAL

TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS.

February 13, 1849.

GENTLEMEN,—The departments of the Institution entrusted to the superintendence of the Principal, while conducted according to the plan defined by the Board, can present but few incidents in the course of a single year to give variety to his annual report. As a record for future reference, rather than as new matter for present interest, I submit the following review of the affairs of the Household, the School, and the Manufacturing Department.

*The Household.*—The number of pupils in the Institution on the 1st of January, 1848, was eighty-two. There were received within the year eight male and three female pupils. Three male and two female pupils left the Institution within that time. The net increase was six, and the number in the Institution on the 1st of January, 1849, was forty-nine male and thirty-nine female pupils, making a total of eighty-eight; being a greater number than at any former period. Within five years past the net increase in the number of pupils has been thirty. The maintenance of those, now in the Institution, is distributed as follows:—

Maintained by the State of Pennsylvania,	-	45
„ „ New Jersey,	-	6
„ „ Maryland,	- -	5
„ „ Delaware,	- -	1
„ by relatives or friends,	- -	8
„ by funds of the Institution,	-	23
		—
Total,		88
		—

The names of the pupils are given in an Appendix.

Of the forty-five pupils maintained by the State of Pennsylvania, and the twenty-three maintained by the funds of the Institution, making, together, sixty-eight, only sixteen, or less than one-fourth, are of Philadelphia City and County: while of the means for the

support of the Institution, more than one-half is contributed by Philadelphia in the form of taxes and donations, or is derived from property bequeathed or given by its benevolent citizens. This fact may show how generally the benefits of the Institution are extended over the State, and how free is its administration from any local bias in selecting objects for its care.

There has been but one case of serious illness among the pupils during the year, and except from cold in some form, very little sickness has prevailed. The plan was adopted, for the first time, of sending all of them to their homes, or to boarding houses in the country, during the whole period of the summer vacation, with manifest benefit to the health of the greater number.

The conduct of the pupils generally has been satisfactory, evincing, with few exceptions, and those among the youngest children, a proper sense of duty, and a desire to maintain the discipline of the Institution.

The alterations and other improvements made in the main building, and the occupation of two rented houses in the vicinity of the Institution, by several of the adult male pupils, have added considerably to the comfort of the family. The want of room, however, is still seriously felt; and until this want is met, the domestic affairs of the Institution cannot be regulated with the greatest attainable benefit to the pupils. A more complete classification of the family according to sex, age and employment, is much needed; and to the accomplishment of this important object, by the erection of additional buildings, I again invite your attention.

The duties of domestic supervision devolving on the Matron, have been discharged by Mrs. White with the same assiduity which for several years has met your approbation.

*The School.*—The studies now pursued are spelling; reading; writing with pencil and pin type; arithmetic, mental and with tangible figures; geography, with the use of maps; grammar; history, sacred and ancient and modern; algebra, geometry, trigonometry; logic, rhetoric, composition; mental and natural philosophy, and music. In these branches classes are organized, and the pupils generally have also the benefit of hearing the daily reading of moral and religious books. Regarding their progress I might speak particularly, as it has been very marked within the year; but prefer to trust to the examination which you will witness for the evidence of this fact. The labours of Mr. Martin, of Miss Sargent during part of the year, and of her successor, Miss Noyes, have been indefatigable, and the

results are alike beneficial to the objects of their instruction, and honourable to the Institution. To their assistants, Miss Gillam and Miss Hankins, who are still numbered among the pupils, every commendation is due for their ability and success in teaching the elementary branches.

A new method of writing, with an alphabet invented by Mr. Martin, has been partially introduced; and having received the approbation of your Committee of Instruction, will be made a regular branch of study as soon as a sufficient number of suitable instruments are prepared. The method seems to be free from the objections which attend every other devised for the blind, being easily learned, and the letters formed by it being legible both by the eye and the finger.

*Music.*—The remarks made upon other branches are generally applicable to this also. Under the excellent method and devoted attention of Mr. Rasche, progress has been made both in vocal and instrumental music by most of the pupils. The orchestra exhibits particular improvement, and although consisting chiefly of boys under twelve years of age, executes a great number of pieces with creditable precision. In the vocal classes, compositions of the English, German, Italian and French schools, are sung with words of those languages, and with very pleasing effect. In teaching the girls, Mr. Rasche is very efficiently aided by Miss Dandy, one of the resident pupils. While commending the general improvement in this department, I cannot omit calling your attention to the fact, that far less is accomplished than might be, if there were suitable and sufficiently numerous practising rooms. It is impracticable now to afford the younger learners, especially, any adequate opportunity of profiting by the lessons of their teachers. All that they acquire is while actually in the class; and the many important hours which might be devoted to practice, in the proper sense of the term, are virtually lost. With rooms for the purpose, the less proficient could practice under the care of the more advanced; and I am satisfied that more could be thus acquired in a single year, than with a majority is now achieved in two or three years. In view of the great importance of music to the blind—that it compensates by its unfailing pleasures for the absence of many of the enjoyments of sight, that where there is only a moderate degree of talent for the art, it fills delightfully an otherwise painful void in their many lonesome and ever dark hours—I cannot too urgently solicit your consideration of the expediency of extending every feasible aid to the cultivation of it in the Institution. With various

other branches to acquire, the pupils should be enabled to employ, to the utmost advantage, the limited time assigned to this.

Among the incidents worthy of mention under this head, is the composition of an overture by Miss Sarah Ann Dandy, arranged by herself for two performers on the piano. This work, now in progress of publication, is exclusively this young lady's own, and is certainly a remarkable evidence of talent, taste, and theoretical knowledge, in one of her age and sex—labouring, too, under the difficulty of composing without the aid of pen and paper. It is proper to add, that Miss Dandy has received all her musical education in the Institution under Mr. Rasche's instruction.

*Work Department.*—The statements annexed exhibit the business and condition of the manufacturing department, the details of which, in the matter of purchases and sales, continue to be managed by Mr. Snider, with the devotion to the interests of the Institution which has marked his connexion with it from the year of its foundation.

*List of Articles made in the Institution in 1848.*

BY MALE PUPILS.

311 Cloth Brushes				
768 Hair do.				
34 Horse do.				
153 Sweeping Brushes,				
64 Dusters,				
32 Window do.				
50 Crumb do.				
190 Hat do.				
101 Stereotype plate Brushes,				
21,411 Handscrubs,				
405 Clamps,				
4,517 Shoe Brushes,				
148 Ley Brushes,				
49 Wall do.				
<hr/>				
28,263 valued at	-	-	-	\$3,780 20
265 Door Mats, -	-	-	-	340 65
911 yards Carpet weaving,	-	-	-	243 42
118 Willow Baskets, -	-	-	-	43 11
				<hr/>
<i>Carried forward,</i>				\$4,407 38

*Brought forward,* \$4,407 38

## BY GIRLS.

295 articles of Knitting, - - - -	183 43
1,551 Bead Baskets, - - - -	386 02
188 articles, chiefly of beads, - - - -	60 19
Sewing.—25 Sheets,	
42 Pillow cases,	
62 Towels,	
23 Napkins,	
15 Sundries,	
— - - - -	15 13
<hr/>	
Total,	\$5,052 15
<hr/>	

*Account of Stock, Expenses, and Sales.*

## DR.

Value of finished and unfinished goods, on hand Jan.	
1, 1848, - - - - -	\$2,139 71
Do. of raw material, do. - - - -	575 00
Do. do. bought in 1848, - - - -	3,033 54
Paid for instruction, - - - - -	850 00
Paid to pupils, for wages and overwork, viz:	
To males, in board and lodging, \$349 39	
Do. in cash, - - - - -	858 44
	<hr/>
	\$1,207 83
To girls in cash, - - - - -	268 10
	<hr/>
	1,475 93
	<hr/>
	\$8,074 18

## CR.

Amount of sales in 1848, - - -	\$3,128 19
Value of goods, on hand January 1,	
1849, - - - - -	\$3,556 77
Do. of raw material, do. - - -	560 23
	<hr/>
	4,117 00
Amount paid by working pupils for maintenance, - - - - -	349 39
	<hr/>
	7,594 58
	<hr/>
Balance against work department,	\$479 60

Amount of cash and credit sales in 1848,	-	-	-	\$3,128	19
Receipts for cash and credit sales in 1848,	-	-	-	3,102	33
Expended for materials in 1848,	-	-	-	3,033	54

Goods on hand January 1, 1847,	-	-	-	\$2,316	23
Do. do. 1848,	-	-	-	2,139	71
Do. do. 1849,	-	-	-	3,556	77

From a comparison of the figures in the above account, with the account of 1847, it appears that the amount of goods made in that year, was \$3,081, and the amount made in 1848, was \$4,545, being an increase of \$1,464. This increase is attributable to the greater proficiency and greater number of the hands. It also appears, that the stock of manufactured goods on hand in January, 1848, having been \$2,139, and in January, 1849, \$3,556, the difference of these sums, \$1,417, is very nearly the same as the amount of increase in the manufactures of the latter, over the former year; and consequently this increased quantity remains unsold. If this evil were to continue, it would of course present a barrier to any greater production. On the feasibility of a remedy, I venture to offer a suggestion in another place. As some set-off, however, to this view of the case, it may be remarked, that admitting the goods on hand to be fairly valued, there is so far a very trifling balance against the business, properly so called, of this department. This business, it may be seen from the account, is charged with the whole expense of instruction, and with the materials used by learners. But as instruction in handieraft is a department of the Institution, founded and sustained without reference to remuneration from the sale of goods, no part of the expense attending it can be considered as a tax incident to the employment of those who have ceased to be learners. Subtracting this item (\$850 in the above account), it does not appear that the Institution is as yet a material loser by the benevolent plan of giving employment to this class of its inmates; although such must be the result, if over production forces goods upon the market at reduced prices.

It is my duty again to testify to the zeal and efficiency of Mr. Meyer, as instructor of the male pupils, and of Mrs. Sharpless of the female pupils, in this department. The latter has been assisted by Miss Leard, a resident pupil, whose success as a teacher has entirely justified her appointment. The girls' work generally shows considerable



able improvement, and is more commendable than at any former period, for variety, neatness and taste.

Early in the year, it was found expedient to reorganize the manufacturing department. The practice had been long followed of allowing all the pupils a certain portion of their time for their own profit. The system, as regarded the male adults, proficient in their work, was found onerous to the Institution, and the plan was adopted of allowing them wages for all their work, and deducting from the earnings of each one a fixed sum for his maintenance. At the same time, a separate household was formed of those placed upon this footing. This experiment has resulted satisfactorily in one important respect. It proves that the blind, who are skilled in certain trades, may support themselves under these conditions: 1st, when associated under a competent superintendent; 2d, with adequate current capital; and 3d, with steady employment. And this fact is a sufficient argument for the establishment of a "Home and House of Employment for the Adult Blind," in connexion with this Institution.

The means requisite to found such a department, would probably not be wanting on a proper representation to State Legislatures, and to the community at large, of its claims upon public sympathy and aid. The difficulty in carrying out the system seems to be, that which the Institution now experiences; namely, to find a ready market for the goods manufactured, thus securing to the workman steady employment. It is certain that other manufacturers of similar goods succeed in this respect. With equal energy and similar expedients, the result should be the same in both cases. The doubt, however, on this point, is not sufficient to warrant the abandonment of the benevolent project of rendering the blind mechanic comparatively independent, of giving him the essential happiness of employment, of assuring him that life for him has security, comfort and hope. In this matter, the legislature of New York has set a noble example. Fifteen thousand dollars were appropriated at its session last winter to this purpose. The time has surely arrived, when the blind citizen of Pennsylvania should receive at the hands of the State, the little assistance which will render his labour available for his support. Alone, he is generally helpless. Associated with others whose mode of working is similar to his own, with a proper supervisor, with money to purchase his materials at the lowest rates, and agencies to sell his goods at the highest, he is rescued from the chances of want, and becomes a useful member of society.

I am indebted to Mr. Michael Snider for the following notices of

pupils, whose connexion with the Institution ceased before my own commenced.

“In looking back to recall the many benefits that have resulted from the education of the blind, and adverting to the number of persons who have qualified themselves within our walls, to go forth and teach their fellow blind, it is but simple justice to record the fact, that one of our earliest and most intelligent pupils, Mr. Eli W. Whelan, has been for several years the active and useful presiding officer of the Institution for the Blind, in Nashville, Tenn. In the spring of 1848, Mr. Jacob G. Berry, also a former pupil of our Institution, was appointed assistant teacher in the Literary Department of the same Institution, where he appears to give general satisfaction. He occupies the place formerly filled by Mr. J. Ramsey (also a former pupil), and who is now successfully employed in teaching music in Nashville.”

“Since our last report, our female pupils have been called to mourn the decease of Miss Elizabeth Adolph. She had for some time been actively and successfully employed as instructress in a private family, where her amiable manners and mental powers had given ample testimony of what might be accomplished by a course of persevering industry. Her death cast a shade of sadness on the minds of all her former fellow pupils, by whom she had been much beloved. Here, it must not be forgotten to notice the death of another amiable and beloved female pupil, Miss Sarah A. Eaton, which occurred some months before. The victim of a lingering disease, she became a more than usual object of regard to her companions; and her departure for her parent's home, where she died, was marked as one of melancholy interest, by those who long had known her kindness and her moral worth.”

Among many former pupils of the Institution, whose present career illustrates its usefulness, the names of Messrs. William H. Churchman, William C. Graham, Richard Guyn, Jonathan Dyer, Mitchell B. Clark, Hugh Coyle, Jewett H. Gray, and Samuel M'Giffin, and that of Miss Sarah Marsh, particularly call for repeated and honourable mention. Mr. Churchman continues to discharge the duties of Principal of the Indiana Institution for the Blind, and the others are fulfilling the duties of teachers, in various departments of that or kindred institutions.

A recent visit by upwards of forty pupils was paid to Trenton, and in presence of the State officers and the Legislature of New Jersey,



they were examined in their studies, and performed various pieces of vocal and instrumental music. The assurance was given by the audience, that the exercises were entirely satisfactory.

In closing this Report, I may be allowed to express the trust, that personal inspection by members of the Board of Managers, will prove that the Institution continues to fulfil, to the extent of its means, the ends of its foundation. I would appeal especially to the spirit manifested by the pupils, their general desire for knowledge, their attachment to it as a present home, their contentment and their cheerfulness. If the assurance may be felt of God's blessing on any work, it is certainly on this.

Respectfully submitted.

J. R. FRY, *Principal.*

## APPENDIX.

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### LIST OF PUPILS IN THE INSTITUTION ON THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY, 1849.

#### *From Pennsylvania.*

Adair, David,	Allegheny county.
Baker, William,	Wyoming county.
Bertram, W. D.	Philadelphia county.
Brennan, James,	Schuylkill county.
Brooks, Henry,	Dauphin county.
Brown, J. C.	Do.
Brownlee, Augustus,	Philadelphia county.
Clayborn, John B.	Franklin county.
Dubbs, Cyrus,	Lebanon county.
Fortescue, Walter S.	Philadelphia city.
Frey, Henry,	Chester county.
Gamble, Wm. G.	Philadelphia county.
Ireland, W. J.	Do.
Karrigan, Ambrose,	Schuylkill county.
Lewis, William,	Bradford county.
Loughery, David,	Westmoreland county.
Mack, Edward,	Philadelphia county.
M'Elrevey, Richard,	Allegheny county.
M'Millan, William,	Franklin county.
M'Millan, Alexander,	Juniata county.
Minich, Joseph W.	Lehigh county.
Morton, Sylvester,	Montgomery county.
Paist, S. H.	Bucks county.
Peebles, J. J.	Bedford county.
Romig, John J.	Lehigh county.
Smith, William J.	Berks county.
Stahlnecker, William H.	Lehigh county.
Steiner, John L.	Columbia county.
Weindell, John F.	Luzerne county.
Wheaton, Robert,	Philadelphia county.

Wood, David,	Allegheny county.
Weaver, Peter,	Blair county.
Wattson, Benjamin,	Mifflin county.
Butz, Frances,	Monroe county.
Cormany, Maria,	Lebanon county.
Erschine, Emma L.	Philadelphia city.
Fithian, Phœbe E.	Do.
Foote, Maria,	Do.
Frisard, Fleurine,	Do.
Henderson, Nancy,	Indiana county.
McCulloch, Isabella,	Philadelphia city.
McGlaughlin, Sarah,	Cumberland county.
Pfahler, Catharine,	Juniata county.
Raney, Rebecca,	Philadelphia city.
Souder, Caroline,	Perry county.
Starret, Mary Ann,	Philadelphia county.
Twining, Louisa K.	Montgomery county.

*From Maryland.*

Colburn, H. H.	Basford, Margaret C.
Harris, Edward W.	Duley, Sarah A.
Jones, John S. T.	Hoke, Fanny,
Newcomer, Alexander,	Wilson, Elizabeth A.

*From New Jersey.*

Cook, John E.	Cruser, Catharine,
Cruser, Matilda,	Hildreth, Hannah,
Cruser, Sarah,	Lawrence, Rachel L.

*From Delaware.*

Hannah Kees.

*From Virginia.*

Jane Womack.

*From Arkansas.*

John Stout.

*From China.*

Fanny Gutzlaff.

*Pupils in the Work Department only.*

Besant, Peter,	M·Cabe, Michael,
Boyd, Edward,	M·Closkey, James,
Carolin, Thomas,	Pancoast, Thomas G.
Kinney, Michael,	Sweeny, Patrick.
Maxwell, Andrew,	

*Resident Pupils.*

Pyle, Samuel,	Gill, Maria,
Dandy, Sarah Ann,	Jones, Maria,
Donnelly, Mary,	Leard, Rachel,
Fennimore, Elizabeth A.	Lynch, Sarah,
Fithian, Anne,	Mallett, Mary Ann,
Gillem, Hannah,	Roberts, Mary V.
Hankins, Matilda.	Westby, Emma.

RECAPITULATION	Males.	Females.	Total.
From Pennsylvania,	33	14	47
Maryland,	4	4	8
New Jersey,	2	5	7
Delaware,		1	1
Virginia,		1	1
Arkansas,	1		1
China,		1	1
Resident and working pupils,	9	13	22
	—	—	—
	49	39	88
Whole number of pupils in the Institution, Jan. 1, 1848,			82
			—
Net increase during the past year,	-	-	6